

THE FELL DESTROYER.

THE RAVAGES OF CHOLERA IN EUROPE AND AMERICA.

History of the Great Recurring Epidemic of Asiatic Cholera—From its Home in the East of India to Our Own Doors—The Present Outbreak and its Course.

It is a Dreadful scourge.

When death sought for a weapon to scourge the world cholera was found. Horror cannot find words to tell all the tale of what this pestilential plague has done to the earth. Swift, loathsome, unerring in its fatality, it has moved nations and continents to grief more powerfully than anything else since the epidemics of the black death in the middle ages. Born in a cradle of Asiatic life, where millions crowd one another for life, it has grown until Europe and America have shrunk from it, and only when satisfied has it withdrawn to its den. Then, after a rest, it has emerged again to spread renewed terror through the world. Often has this been repeated. It is beginning now in the same way. Whether the end will be as terrible cannot be told. If it is America is to suffer with the rest of the world, America has never yet escaped when the scourge crossed the Caucasus into Europe.

True Asiatic cholera originated in Hindoostan, and that country has never been absolutely free from it. Greece suffered from epidemics introduced from India 400 years before Christ, and noted Greek physicians, Aretaeus, Galen, Celsus, Aretaeus, and Oribasius, of the first three centuries of the Christian era, described every symptom of the disease minutely.

Dr. J. C. Peters, writing in the "American Encyclopedia," takes the ground that the epidemics are periodical, returning every twelve years at the occasion of the great Juggernaut festival. The outbreak in London in 1669-72 was not Asiatic cholera, but a milder form that often visits individual cases without killing others.

When the French and English struggled for the Coromandel coast of India repeated epidemics were noticed near Madras and Pondicherry in connection with the great Hindu pilgrimages, the year 1730 being the recognition of periodical returning twelve-yearly epidemics, connected with the great twelve-yearly Hindu festivals at the great temples.

The scourge of 1781.

March 22, 1781, 5,000 English troops, under Col. Pearce, marching over Gungnam, not far from the great temple of Juggernaut, and very shortly after the huge twelve-yearly festival had taken place, were attacked with the disease very suddenly, and with inconceivable fury, after camping on foul pilgrim grounds and drinking polluted water. Men previously healthy dropped down by dozens and those less severely affected were generally past recovery in twenty-four hours. Besides those who had died there were 500 on the sick list the first day, and in two days more nearly 3,000 were affected. This epidemic was carried by returning pilgrims up to Calcutta and down to Madras.

Three times twelve, or thirty-six, years subsequently the great historical epidemic of 1817 occurred. This preceded up the Ganges as far as Allahabad, where it deflected southward to the province of Bundelkand, in which the Marquis of Hastings was carrying on war against the Maharrattas with 50,000 men. Of the natives 10,000 had already died in Allahabad, and many others had joined the army as camp followers, among whom the disease crept about for several days, until a sufficient number of food had been developed for it to burst forth with irresistible force in every direction. The natives deserted in great numbers, and the highways and fields for many miles around were strewn with the bodies of those who had fled with the disease upon them.

The encampments and lines of march of the army presented most deplorable spectacles. Hundreds of soldiers dropped down in every day's advance and on every night's halt, so that the whole presented the appearance of successive battlefields and the track of an army retreating under every circumstance of defeat and discomfiture. In two weeks 9,000 men succumbed to the pestilence. A subsidiary force coming up from the south to co-operate with Hastings, afforded the second striking instance of a large body of men in high health coming into a pestilential realm and falling at once into a wretched state of sickness. Seventy cases and twenty deaths occurred the first day, and many were attacked while loitering for water at contaminated springs and rivulets.

How the Pestilence Spread.

Other reinforcements were advancing from Bombay to the north, and the course of the disease had long been so regular along the line of much-traveled roads and the marches of troops that the Bombay authorities prepared for it when it was many hundred miles distant. Step by step the disease could be traced, marching from town to town and creeping from village to village, by the arrival of persons afflicted with it from places where it was known to prevail. From Bombay it crept up to Bassrah, at the head of the Persian Gulf, where 18,000 persons died in eighteen days, and from there along the rivers Euphrates and Tigris to Bagdad, Damascus, Aleppo, and the Mediterranean coast, where it also raged away in 1821.

Every successive epidemic of cholera has always been carried up the Persian Gulf from Bombay, Surat, Kurrachee and other ports on the western coast of India, and thus reached the Mediterranean, Black and Caspian Seas and neighboring countries by the so-called Persian Gulf route.

In the Bombay presidency are ninety-four straits to which large pilgrimages are made, and from which the disease is brought to the sea coast. In India the epidemic of 1817 spread in every direction with the march of armies, pilgrims, merchants and travelers, often in the face of contrary winds and monsoons, although

festivals from Central Asia, Persia, and Afghanistan to Cabool.

Then the disease advanced over the great Northwest Central Asiatic caravan route to Balkh, Bokhara, and Khiva, and to Orenburg in Russia. Also from Cabool by the North Persian route due west to Herat, Meshed, Teheran, and Reshad at the foot of the Caspian Sea, and from there up to

sent by way of the lakes was rendered incapable of taking the field.

Some were left behind, but the greater part reached Chicago in a deplorable condition. One company which had been mustered and inspected fourteen days before without a man on the sick list, had dropped forty-seven men out of seventy-eight in that short time. One regiment lost more



CHOLERA RIOTS IN ASTRAKHAN—A RUSSIAN DOCTOR BURNED ALIVE.

Astrakhan in Russia, both by sea and land. Cholera reached Orenburg Aug. 26, 1829, and Astrakhan in September. From Orenburg it proceeded due west to Nihil Novgorod and Moscow. From Astrakhan it advanced step by step up the Volga toward the same places until the stream which had flowed through Central Asia to Western Russia and Orenburg formed a junction with that which had entered Southern Russia from the northern provinces of Persia.

From Moscow the disease was distributed all over Northern and Western Russia, than 200 men in a week. It was generally believed that the infection was contracted by the soldiers on the steamboats, which had been previously engaged in transporting emigrants westward from Montreal and Quebec. The army surgeons agreed in asserting that previous to the arrival of these steamboats not a case had been observed in Chicago. It was distributed to all the national fort and posts in the West, including Fort Dearborn, Fort Crawford, near Prairie du Chien, and Fort Armstrong, at Rock Island.

From there the pestilence was carried down the Mississippi to New Orleans, by October, 1832. Surgeon General Lawson says: "One fact is certain. No case of cholera occurred in New Orleans until after the arrival of steamboats with cases of cholera on board, and after a number of their passengers had died of it. Six thousand died out of a population of 35,000."

The epidemic also spread from Buffalo, reaching New York City June 27. Between that date and Oct. 1 the deaths in the city numbered 3,400. Albany suffered heavily. Just as the scourge was leaving New York it broke out in Philadelphia and 1,500 died. The victims in Baltimore and Washington numbered about the same. Cincinnati was in the power of the plague until the middle of the next year. In the Southern States the slave population suffered terribly. St. Louis was one of the worst afflicted cities. The New England States escaped with but a few cases.

When the United States Suffered.

The epidemic that began in Bengal in 1817 and reached the United States by way of Havre and New Orleans at the end of 1848 was a bitter one for this country. The ship Swanton, which brought it, had thirteen deaths on board during the voyage

and sent six cases on shore at New Orleans. Dr. Fenner says that after the disease had once commenced in New Orleans almost every vessel or steamer leaving the city had twenty or thirty cases aboard. Thus persons having cholera and dying with it were carried to all the landing towns and cities of the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers as high as Cincinnati. From St. Louis it was carried over the emigrant route to San Francisco. More than 1,000 emigrants died on the trail, and many Indians who lacerated along from curiosity or for the purpose of begging paid a terrible penalty.

It reached New York in May, 1849, and spread violently. The deaths from cholera in one week in July in the city alone were 700. Boston had about 600 fatal cases during the summer. It was most terrible in Cincinnati and St. Louis, the deaths in each of those cities numbering about 6,000.

The third day of August war, in view of the terrible scourge thus stalking nightly

MAP SHOWING THE CHOLERA INFECTED DISTRICTS OF EUROPE.

One That Reached This Country.

The next great twelve-yearly epidemic commenced in Lower Bengal in 1817. It advanced over Indian provinces, and was supplemented by a Hindu epidemic in 1843, and was found in Afghanistan in 1844, in Persia and Meshed in 1845, advancing west in 1846 to Teheran, and up between the Black and Caspian Seas toward Southern Russia, reaching Astrakhan July 30, 1847.

But especially it was deflected west to Trebizond and Poti, on the southern and eastern coasts of the Black Sea, and from there carried over to Constantinople and Odessa, and up the Danube to Germany, whence it was carried to Holland and England. Toward the close of the year 1848 numbers of cholera emigrants arrived at Havre, and they brought cholera to this country by way of New Orleans.

The Austrian, Hungarian, and Russian armies contending in Hungary in the spring and summer of 1849 became the principal center and focus of the disease, whence it spread with terrible virulence into Poland and Germany.

The next great twelve-yearly epidemic commenced in India in April, 1853. By means of railroads and steamships it reached Mecca on the Red Sea by May 2. In Alexandria June 2 cases were frequent. From there it was carried by steamships to Smyrna, Constantinople, and up the Black Sea, to Malta, to Ancona in Italy, to Marseilles, Gibraltar, Barcelona, Algiers, Tunis, and Southampton in England, by the steamship Poona by July 10, with 120 cases of cholera by July 24.

But more especially the disease was conveyed up through France, from Marseilles to Paris and Havre. Emigrant ships quickly transported it then to America.

This present cholera epidemic is twenty-four years since the one just described and there has been one intervening one. The last one began at the stated twelve-year time, but was slow in reaching Europe and was not permitted to reach this country. In 1848 it reached France, particularly Rouen and Marseilles, Naples, Italy and Spain, but did not spread farther. The outbreak which reached Europe in 1848-49 was exceedingly fatal, 33,293 persons dying in England and Wales in those years from the scourge, and 20,097 in 1854.

How the Cholera Came to America.

When the cholera has reached America it has never been with the nation was youngest the first epidemics did not reach us. The first one to attack America was that which started at the Hurdwar pilgrimages of 1862. After it had reached Europe and raged there and in England, Ireland, and Scotland during 1830 and 1831 it was conveyed by two or three Irish emigrant ships to Quebec in the spring of 1832. From there it went up the St. Lawrence River and across the lakes to Detroit, where it met the United States troops going to the Black Hawk war. In a short time the whole force

day the disease broke out in full fury, 53 new cases were reported, and of these 37 died almost at once. In the next ten days there were more than 500 deaths in New York and Brooklyn. The epidemic lasted through September, and in New York and Brooklyn there were 1,600 deaths.

Spreading the Pestilence.

From New York it was distributed in every direction over the United States by railroads and steamboats, even as far west as the Smoky Fork River in Kansas, to Fort Riley and Harker, and to the new town of Ellipton, the healthy sick weeks old, because soldiers, railroad laborers, and others from infected districts brought the disease to the new line of railroad then building.

July 5th or 10th of July, 1832, the steamer Sheldon Thompson arrived at Chicago from Buffalo, having on board Gen. Scott, his staff, and four companies of troops. With them came the Asiatic pest. The soldiers in the port had in haste and terror. The residents of the village, as far as possible, also went away, some going to Grosse Point and others to LaGrange or Westworth's. By the 12th the village was virtually depopulated, and was given over to the sick, dead and dying, and those whom duty compelled or humanity urged to remain to minister to them.

July is another steamer arrived with another detachment of cholera-stricken soldiers. The flight of the inhabitants confined the ravages of the pest to the soldiers, officers and their families. During the ten days succeeding Gen. Scott's arrival a hundred dead soldiers were carried out from the gates of the garrison and laid to rest in a common grave, without coffin or shroud. They were buried at a point where is now the northwest corner of Lake street and Wabash avenue. This attack was ended about the 20th of July.

America Must Be Prepared.

America dare not hope that no cases of cholera will reach the shores of this continent from the frightful epidemic that is raging in the East. The only question is as to the ability of our health officers to keep the cases quarantined and so exterminate the disease.

There is always cholera in India. It began there before history, and has become a very part of the land and civilization. Its seeds are in the earth, and its breath is in the air. Its sway is undisputed by the swarming people, who lie down at its coming and die without effort or protest against their fate. The great sun and the moon and the reverberating atmosphere have much to do with its unchecked presence and occasional violent outbreaks, but the civilization of the land does more. Superstition and uncleanliness prevail to an almost unbelievable extent. The cities and towns of the Indian hills are un drained, unwatered and filthy. The people live in a state of degradation which appeals more strongly to the senses than to the intellect. Under such conditions the plague thrives and fattens upon unnumbered victims.

The Present Epidemic.

It is difficult to follow the present epidemic in the East with anything like particularity, owing to the scanty report sent by the cable. There was an outbreak of great violence in Syria last summer. It devastated many small villages. The reports made by Spiridon C. Zavitziano, the government correspondent at Constantinople, show that from June, 1891, to February, 1892, there were 4,000 deaths in four provinces. This induced the Turkish Government to erect new lazarettos, and the Russian Government established strict quarantines on the ports of the Black Sea.

Meanwhile the plague appeared with unusual violence in the villages of Northern India and with the impulse of the Hurdwar festival soon became a raging epidemic. The villages and the provinces suffered. It broadcast. We began to hear of it in May. At that time the district of Srinagar, in the extreme north of India, was the center of the plague. There were 1,600 deaths in one week. All work in the country districts was suspended. The ignorant and superstitious people felt that a judgment was on them and made no attempt to stay its ravages. Hundreds were taken sick daily, lay down by the roadside or in the fields to die. The dead were left unburied in the blazing sun, and the stench became horrible. The capital of the district, the city of Srinagar, took fire and burned to the ground. The inhabitants, without food or clothing, took to the country to increase the awful misery there. An attempt was made to help them from Lahore, but it resulted in carrying the cholera there, with hundreds of deaths. Srinagar was one of the filthiest cities of India. Between May 6 and June 11 5,000 of its population of 124,000 died of cholera. There were 298 deaths May 23. The dead were seldom buried.

In April the cholera began its westward march from India to the Caspian sea. It had laid waste a large territory of Northern India. It crossed the Indus and invaded Afghanistan. Cabul was attacked, with thirty and then Herat, where cholera was in the city, the camps of the pilgrims and traders gave a mighty impetus to its spread. The villages along the caravan routes between these two cities were attacked, and the plague spread north and south through the country districts. From Herat it went northwest to the holy city of Meshed, the Mecca of many Eastern pilgrims, and thence to Teheran, where it was in the city, the camps of the pilgrims and traders gave a mighty impetus to its spread. The villages along the caravan routes between these two cities were attacked, and the plague spread north and south through the country districts. From Herat it went northwest to the holy city of Meshed, the Mecca of many Eastern pilgrims, and thence to Teheran, where it was in the city, the camps of the pilgrims and traders gave a mighty impetus to its spread. The villages along the caravan routes between these two cities were attacked, and the plague spread north and south through the country districts.

Its Ravages in Russia.

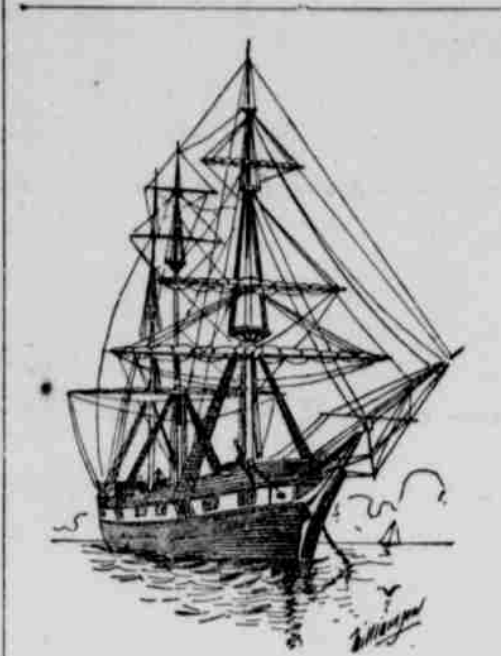
In May the cholera crossed the Caspian, in spite of precautions, and invaded Baku, a Russian seaport south of the Caucasus Mountains. It is the great petroleum port of the Caspian and filthy beyond description. The cholera was now in Europe, and it spread rapidly. The authorities, much alarmed, bent all their energies toward keeping it from Astrakhan, the port at the mouth of the Volga. But they were unsuccessful. The cable reported that the Russians were too demoralized to carry out the requirements of these schedules. About the middle of July a riot was occasioned in Saratov by the report that the doctors in the hospitals were burying cholera patients alive.

It is reported that 150,000 deaths from cholera have occurred in Russia this summer up to date. To that long roll of mortality should be added 35,000 in Persia, up to a week ago, and an unknown but large number in Turkistan and other Asiatic countries, besides several hundred per day in Hamburg and scores daily in each of not a few cities in Germany and France. The total up to date can hardly be less than 300,000 deaths, and may exceed that figure, while there is yet room for a further swelling of the list before the activity of the cholera germs is destroyed by the advent of frost.

WE LED THE WHOLE WORLD.

Facts Recalled by the Exhibition of the Whaling Ship Progress at Chicago.

No more fitting or appropriate exhibition will constitute a part of the great World's Fair, it is believed, than that of the old New Bedford whaler Progress. It will give the rising generation an idea of what whale-fishing really is and to recall to those of more mature years an enterprise in which fifty to sixty years ago America led the world. When, in 1835, the combined whaling fleet of the Eastern world numbered less than five hundred, the American seekers for the boss of the seas were



THE SHIP PROGRESS.

far in excess of this number, and gave employment to more than one hundred thousand men. The cash capital, as represented by the American whaling industries in those days, was away up in the millions, and the investment paid a good interest. The carcass of a whale would yield from seven to eight hundred dollars, and, as the average take of the vessels engaged in the trade was from eighteen to twenty whales, the returns were very satisfactory.

The industry declined, however, the whales became less and less numerous, and finally famous old ships like the Polly Rocket, the Gibson, the Ice King and the Progress were put in the coasting trade or leased to Nova Scotian mackerel fishers, and the glory of Old Nantucket and New Bedford faded beyond repair.

Vessels of the Progress build are no longer used by whalers, for they could hardly compete with the steam whalers, of which the Thetis, Bear, and Alert are the most approved types. Whaling to-day, however, what there is of it, is combined with sealing and other fisheries, and the capture of one of these monsters of the deep is the exception rather than the rule.

On the Pacific coast there are several points where shore whaling stations are maintained and where, as the whales go up and down the coast to and from the Arctic seas, the catches are sometimes considerable. The industry can hardly be called a distinctive one, however, any more than that of the men who follow the "combination fisheries."

No whales are found in the Arctic in the winter, because they cannot find breathing space, so closely are the waters frozen over. It is said that many whales are sacrificed every year by being caught in the ice and being unable when they come up to breathe to break it.

The whale is found all along the California coast during some of the winter months, but their breeding grounds are in the lower latitudes, as at Magdalena Bay, and in the shallows of the Lower Mexican coast. The right whale hunts his summer feeding grounds in high latitudes and seeks out breeding grounds in low latitudes.

The American whaling industry, however, always depended upon the success of the vessels, like the Progress, therein engaged, and had no subsidies or bounties from royal treasuries to encourage it, so as the mammoth declined, the industry declined with it, and to-day there is but little, if any, use for steam whalers, let alone such old-time rovers as the Progress.

LORENZO CROUNSE.

The Republican Nominee for Governor of Nebraska.

The Republicans of Nebraska named as their candidate for Governor Hon. Lorenzo Crouse, formerly Congressman and recently appointed Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, in place of Mr. Batcheller, who was made Minister to Portugal.

Mr. Crouse was born in Schoharie Co., N. Y., Jan. 27, 1834. He received an academic education, studied law, and in 1855 commenced to practice in Montgomery County. At the outbreak of the civil war he organized a battery and entered the service as captain of artillery. In 1865 he removed to Nebraska, was elected a member of the Territorial Legislature the next year and assisted in forming the present State constitution. In 1867 he became Associate Justice of the State Supreme Court, and later was a member of the Forty-third and Forty-fourth Congresses. Last April he was appointed Assistant Secretary of the Treasury by Secretary Foster.

And Still We Are Climbing.

The first American newspaper was published in 1690, and in 1890 the total number of periodical publications in Canada and the United States was nearly 18,000, with a combined annual issue of nearly 3,500,000,000.

HUMOR OF THE WEEK.

STORIES TOLD BY FUNNY MEN OF THE PRESS.

Many Odd, Curious, and Laughable Phases of Human Nature Graphically Portrayed by Eminent Word Artists of Our Own Day.

Scissored Smiles.

A FLY is best off when he lights on a sticky paper.—Glens Falls Republican.

"Does your new dress fit you well, Clara?" "Oh, splendidly! I can hardly move or breathe in it."—New York Press.

SHE—I can sympathize with you. I was married once myself. He—but you weren't married to a woman.—Brooklyn Life.

Mrs. ENPIK—Marriage is only a lottery anyhow. Mr. Enpiik—Hardly. A man does get a prize sometimes in a lottery.—Detroit Free Press.

BUNKER—How much did your visit to Cincinnati cost you? Hill—I visited a friend, and I can't tell yet until he comes on to visit me.—Puck.

"ARE you in favor of monopoly?" asked the stranger. "Yes," replied the young man, "where your best girl is concerned I am."—New York Herald.

"Does a man have to be a Christian to get through college nowadays?" "Not at all, but he must be a muscle man, without doubt."—Boston Courier.

COBWIGGER—"Brown doesn't talk any more about the big fish he brings home." Merritt—"His wife has bought a pair of kitchen scales."—New York Sun.

LOVELL—"This marrying a rich wife is of no use. Markham—Why not? Lovell—Because even after she's fast asleep you can't find her pocket."—New York Herald.

Mrs. MIXES—Why didn't you get a divorce, dear? Mrs. Winkins (sadly)—I found I wouldn't be able to get alimony enough to support another husband.—New York Weekly.

ETHEL—I'm as hungry as a big, big lion. Mamma—Well, what do you think a hungry big, big lion would like to eat? Ethel (joyfully)—Fruit-cake.—Harper's Young People.

Mrs. JASON—Jehiel, what is an agnostic? Mr. Jason—Why, it is a fellow that don't believe in neither doctors nor preachers as long as he is in good health.—Indianapolis Journal.

Mr. TROOMER—Where on earth is my new silk hat? I've looked everywhere for it. His Bride (sweetly)—You said you wanted it ironed, dear, so I sent it out to the laundry.—Truth.

"THE great problem about matrimony," said the Benedict of recent date, "is finding a satisfactory place to live. Marriage is not only a lottery—it is a house-and-lottery.—Washington Star.

"Don't you think Mr. Twiddles is very absent-minded?" said a young woman. "No," replied Miss Pepper-ton. "He displays admirable caution. What little he has he always brings with him."—Washington Star.

He had struck a match on his boot-heel, and his wife remarked: "You are as spry as a cat, aren't you?" "Do you think so?" he returned in a pleased tone. "Yes. You light on your feet, you know."—Washington Star.

SHE—"Well, if I can't live on my income, and you can't live on yours, where would be the advantage in our marrying?" He (thoughtfully)—"Well, by putting our incomes together one of us would be able to live, at an rate."—Life.

GERTIE—Papa, will our new mamma go mad after awhile? Father—What a question! Why do you ask such a thing? Gertie—Well, I heard her tell the cook yesterday that she got badly bitten when she married you.—Kate Field's Washington.

JUDGE (to prisoner)—You are charged with having seriously injured your wife by inclosing her in a folding bed. What have you to say for yourself? Prisoner—Your Honor, I wished to see if it was possible to shut her up.—Detroit Free Press.

WOOL—The alien contract-labor law is getting to be a dead letter. Van Pelt—How so? Wool—Why, look at the wealthy widows who have imported husbands this season. Van Pelt—That's all right; they don't come over here to work.—Brooklyn Life.

MOTHER—I see the iceman has brought a great lump this time. Did you tell him I said that if he didn't stop giving short weight I'd have him arrested? Little Dick—No; I told him you said he was the handsomest iceman that ever came here.—Good News.

Mrs. FRIENDLY—"What did your husband say to you to make you feel so bad?" Mrs. Newlywed—"I told him that he hadn't been to church since we were married, and he—boo-hoo—said, 'No wonder—a—burnt child dreads the fire'—boo-hoo."—Texas Sittings.

WOMAN is a noble word: it is much better than "lady." Walter Scott knew better than to write, "Oh, lady, in our hours of ease," etc., and you couldn't hire Byron to revise a celebrated passage to read, "Gentleman's love is of gentleman's life a thing apart; 'tis lady's whole existence."—Boston Transcript.

HOULIHAN (in the menagerie)—Saint Patrick preserve us! An' what may that thing be? The Keeper—An iguana; Central America. Houlihan (relieved)—Me frind, Oi knocked off whisky for seein' better lookin' things than him, an' now Oi thought that perhaps Oi'd hov to be givin' up wather!—Puck.